



GV STRATUS® PLAYOUT

CLOUD-BASED SOFTWARE AS A SERVICE
FOR AUTOMATION AND MONITORING

Release Notes

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Introducing GV STRATUS® Playout v2.2

GV STRATUS® Playout is cloud-based, Software as a Service (SaaS), broadcast automation that leverages on true cloud-computing technology coupled with SSP-3801 HD/SD solid state playout cards.

The GV STRATUS Playout service provides the distribution network for media management, metadata, and schedules from the cloud. The GV STRATUS Playout solution moves the IT infrastructure, platform, and software into the cloud while the media storage and playout cards remain on premise allowing you to retain full control of the location and movement of your media and devices.

New Features

SKY-3632: Schedule versioning

Comments are now added to the channel playlist indicating the schedule's version date, time and the name of the action that has taken place.

Version comments are added when:

- A schedule is appended to a channel.
- A schedule goes on air.
- A schedule is replaced on a channel. If its a full replacement, the comment is added to the start of the schedule. If it is a partial replacement, the version comment is added from the point of schedule replace because of the 15 minute lockout window.
- A schedule fails to be replaced (i.e. is within the lockout window). The version comment is added to the end of the schedule.

Note: If a schedule has been created via the user interface, then the last modified date and time is used as the version.

These comments are propagated to the channel Archive and As Run logs to provide a full audit trail.

SKY-3586: Update of live schedules supported by iXML schedule update

When replacing an iXML schedule that is currently on air on the channel all items outside of a 15 minute lockout window are replaced. If the schedule is on a channel which is not on air then all schedule items will be replaced.

SKY-3571: Clip assets can be exported from iTX and registered in GV Stratus Playout

Clip assets exported from iTX can be imported into the Gateway as AssetXML files with metadata properties (e.g. in and out points).

The Gateway must be running to register changes to media and import schedule and asset files.

If media is transferred to the inbox folder and the Gateway is not running, the files will not be processed immediately and the assets are left in an inconsistent state in which the assets exist, but without locations. To fix this, the Gateway must be restarted, the assets must be deleted from the inbox and then re-imported.

Note the maximum number of concurrent jobs is set in the iTX Delivery Manager and its default settings is 5 transfers to that endpoint.

SKY-3570: Channel type selections now persist after logout

Selecting a channel type on Schedule Edit or Asset Management is now retained on a per-user basis and is automatically selected when the user logs back into the application.

SKY-3449: The import and revision dates of schedules are clearly identified on the Schedule Edit page

Two new columns appear in the Schedule Edit page to help distinguish between when a schedule was imported and when it was last modified.

- **Last Modified:** Displays the date and time when the schedule was last modified when an operator manually edited the schedule or when an updated schedule was imported.
- **Last Received:** Displays the date and time when the schedule was last imported (BXF or iTXML).

SKY-3445: Support for Auto Loading of Schedules

You can now append an 'Auto Schedule' event to a schedule in Schedule Edit or via iTXML or BXF and specify the schedule you would like it to reference. The Auto Schedule event expands one hour before its on air time, appending the referenced schedule to the end of the playlist as long as the schedule is available.

Note: The maximum allowable number of items after expansion is 3500 so if the auto load of the schedule would exceed this limit then the load will be delayed and retried at a later time.

SKY-3335: iTXML now supports enabling 'SCTE Triggerable' on primary events

iTXML now supports enabling 'SCTE Triggerable' on primary events by using the TXSegment event and specifying the AllowExternalTake element as true.

SKY-2063: Update of live schedules supported by BXF schedule update

When replacing an BXF schedule that is currently on air on the channel all items outside of a 15 minute lockout window are replaced. If the schedule is on a channel which is not on air then all schedule items will be replaced.

SKY-1513: Proxy Deletion supported from the Gateway

Media deletes on the Stratus Playout Gateway application now also deletes the proxy file associated with that piece of media, so long as the proxy is in the same file location as the media being deleted.

Fixes

SKY-3701: Channel control slowed or became unresponsive when a large schedule was appended to the on air channel

While playout was not affected, Channel control slowed or became unresponsive when a large schedule was appended to the on air channel. Changes have been made to improve the performance when processing large batches of schedule status updates.

SKY-3674: Assets that fail to cache disappear from the channel playlist

GV Stratus Playout keeps events that have failed to cache in the playlist with a status of Failure. Once the event has passed the on air time, the status of the event changes to Failed.

If the assets are re-cached before the on air time, then the status of the events is updated in the playlist to reflect this.

As well, the on air time for events are now recorded correctly when a large number of status updates are being processed.

SKY-3655: When using the Chrome v45 (or earlier) browser, scheduling an event with for fixed time sets the time to one hour earlier

Added support for changes to dates in version 46.0.2480.71 m of the Chrome browser. This change is backwards compatible with version 45.0.2.2454.101 m of Chrome.

SKY-3623: The "Error importing iTXML" error message appeared when importing a schedule using Gateway

This error has been resolved by adding ITXML timecode element support for In Points and Out Points in a schedule.

SKY-2581: Updating asset no longer clears state of Schedule Event

When an asset has it's duration updated, schedule events using the asset will no longer have their status' set to a blank value.

SKY-2575: Replacing all instances of an event in a schedule does not work

When a schedule contains multiple events containing the same missing asset with the same ID, you can now replace all the events by clicking the ID button and selecting "All occurrences in this schedule".

SKY-2433: Secondary events in a schedule imported with iXML payout correctly

Secondary events payout when a schedule containing secondary events is imported using iXML and then appended to a channel.

Known Issues

SKY-3768: Angle bracket characters (< and >) are not supported in schedule, user and asset names

Schedule, user and asset names containing the < or > characters are truncated after these characters and therefore should not be used.

SKY-3076: Channel clock is an hour behind during Daylight Saving Time

The clock time on the Channel Control page is an hour behind when the channel type used has Daylight Saving Time (DST) dates set and the current date is within the DST period. The channel grid, however, displays the correct time for the scheduled events and displays events an hour ahead taking into account the DST settings.

SKY-3013: Reimporting a clip may overwrite certain metadata

When a clip is reimported using GV STRATUS Playout Gateway, some metadata such as the content type and title may be overwritten.

SKY-2770: Schedule LIVE state is not refreshed for selected schedule

When a schedule is selected and subsequently goes on air on one or more channels, the LIVE state on the Schedule Edit page is not displayed until the schedule is reselected in the left pane.

SKY-2667: Not possible to turn on VCHIP for a rating with a name that contains plus character (+)

Although it is possible to preset any VCHIP rating in Channel Control using the VCHIP Set button, it is not possible to use the VCHIP rating button to turn on a rating that contains a plus (+) character in its name. Attempting to set one with a plus character clears the rating from the button and turns off VCHIP for the channel instead.

Workaround: Click the Confidence Monitor on Channel Control page to open the SSP-3801 web client. In the SSP-3801 web client, click Playlist in the left pane and then set and turn on VCHIP using the buttons on the Playlist page.

SKY-2466: BXF update of a large schedule causes unexpected behavior

Performing a BXF full update on a large schedule (greater than 2000 events) can cause GV STRATUS Playout to become unresponsive and cause clients (including web interface and devices) to go offline temporarily.

Workarounds:

- Use smaller schedules. For example, on busy channels update using daypart schedules instead of one schedule for the entire broadcast day.
- Update events via a BXF delta update or the Web client when only a few events need to change.

The cause is the performance of delete operations for large amounts of data in the cloud. The R&D team are working to change to an alternate storage model.

SKY-2441: GV STRATUS Playout Gateway and File Processing Node exhibit unexpected behavior after failover

After failover of an account to the standby deployment, the GV STRATUS Playout Gateway and File Processing Node devices associated to the account begin exhibiting unexpected behavior; for example, the File Processing Node ignores its Parallel Jobs limit and job deletion requests from the web client, jobs are re-queued in the web client which causes duplicate jobs to be created, and closing and reopening the devices causes them to connect back to the previous deployment.

Workaround: After failing over GV STRATUS Playout Gateway and File Processing Node devices to the standby deployment, change the configuration of each device briefly. For example, click the Inbox Folder field in GV STRATUS Playout Gateway or change the Parallel Jobs limit in the File Processing Node, then press the Update Configuration button to save the new deployment configuration. In the unlikely event that there is a need to switch accounts to the backup deployment, customers will be advised and supported by the SPO Support team.

SKY-2438: GV STRATUS Playout Gateway continues to create jobs for a previously configured Media Conversion Inbox

When the Inbox for a previously configured Media Conversion Processor instance is changed, then any media arriving in either the current or previously configured Inbox causes the GV STRATUS Playout Gateway to create a new media processing job.

Workaround: Close and re-open GV STRATUS Playout Gateway after changing the Inbox Folder and saving the configuration.

SKY-2237: Gateway reports an error when importing a large number of assets using BXF

When a large number of assets (over 1000) are imported using BXF, GV STRATUS Playout Gateway reports an "Error Parsing BXF file" error.

SKY-2234: Devices may unregister if the host clock is not synchronized

Devices such as the GV STRATUS Playout Gateway and the File Processing Node may unregister from the GV STRATUS Playout service if the system clock on the host computer is not correctly synchronized with local time.

SKY-2017: Completed secondary events are removed from channel grid whilst primary event is still on air

Secondary events in the "done" state are removed from the channel grid on the Channel Control page before their associated primary event has finished being played out.

SKY-2016: Partial breakaway hold events are not appearing in Show History

If an event is partially played out using Breakaway Hold, the event does not appear in the Show History log once it has been removed from the channel control grid.

SKY-1988: Row highlight is not cleared when deleting multiple events

When deleting multiple events from a schedule on the Schedule Edit page, the blue highlight color should be removed once the events are deleted to indicate that the deletion has been completed. Currently, however, the highlight remains visible and shifts to a different group of events.

Workaround: Select an event in the grid to clear the highlight.

SKY-1681: The channel clock is not updated when the channel type is changed to one with a different time zone offset

The channel clock on the Channel Control page is not updated correctly when the channel's channel type is changed. If the channel type on the Settings > Channel Settings page is changed to a channel type with a Time Zone Offset different than the one previously displayed on the Channel Control page, the channel clock continues to display using the previous offset.

Workarounds:

- If the channel grid on the Channel Control page is exhibiting the issue, click to a different channel and then back again. If this does not resolve the issue, switch to a different channel type and then back again.
- Reload the browser before appending a schedule.

System Requirements

For detailed system requirements, please refer to the GV STRATUS Playout Operator Guide.

Opening and logging into the GV STRATUS

Playout web interface

To access the GV STRATUS Playout web interface, you need a Google Chrome browser and the log in email address provided to you by the system administrator. Since the interface is customizable by user profile, the pages and functionality made available to you might differ than what is described.

Important: To access the GV STRATUS Playout web interface, we recommend that you use a display with a minimum screen resolution of 1920 x 1080 pixels and the latest version of Google Chrome at 100% zoom in full-screen (F11) mode.

To open the web interface:

1. Open a Google Chrome browser.
2. In the address bar, type the URL of your GV STRATUS Playout Portal.
3. In the **Email** box, type the email address configured to grant you access to the portal.
4. Click **Sign in**.

Contact Us

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